

# News Release

## *Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge*

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **VOLUNTEER FOR WILDLIFE AT THE EARTH DAY WORK DAY AT DEER FLAT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge invites wildlife-lovers to celebrate Earth Day by volunteering at the Earth Day Work Day Event from 9am-12pm on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Work Day crews will improve wildlife habitat by picking up litter, removing noxious weeds and improving wildlife friendly landscaping surrounding the visitor center.

Volunteers' litter-control efforts will not only make the refuge look better to people, they will also make it safer for wildlife. Animals can be injured or killed by eating or being caught in litter. Volunteers' weed-control efforts will improve wildlife habitat because noxious weeds like poison hemlock often out-compete natives, leaving behind uniform stands of non-native plants. That decrease in diversity means that a variety of wildlife doesn't find the variety of plants it needs for food and cover.

Volunteers will meet at the refuge Visitor Center at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. They should bring water and gloves and wear clothes they can get dirty. Volunteers who would like to be on the noxious weed removal crew should wear long sleeves and long pants. Work day volunteers should pre-register to be assigned to a work project by contacting the refuge at (208) 467-9278 or [deerflat@fws.gov](mailto:deerflat@fws.gov).

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